

## COUNTRY DATA: HONDURAS: Information from the CIA World Factbook

### INTRODUCTION

Once part of Spain's vast empire in the New World, Honduras became an independent nation in 1821. After two and a half decades of mostly military rule, a freely elected civilian government came to power in 1982. During the 1980s, Honduras proved a haven for anti-Sandinista contras fighting the Marxist Nicaraguan Government and an ally to Salvadoran Government forces fighting leftist guerrillas. The country was devastated by Hurricane Mitch in 1998, which killed about 5,600 people and caused approximately \$2 billion in damage. Since then, the economy has slowly rebounded.

### GEOGRAPHY

Location	Central America, bordering the Caribbean Sea, between Guatemala and Nicaragua and bordering the Gulf of Fonseca (North Pacific Ocean), between El Salvador and Nicaragua.
Area	112,090 sq km
Climate	Subtropical in lowlands, temperate in mountains.
Natural Resources	Timber, gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, iron ore, antimony, coal, fish, hydropower.
Total Renewable Water Resources	95.9 cu km (2000)
Freshwater Withdrawal	0.86 cu km/yr (8%/12%/80%)
Natural Hazards	Frequent, but generally mild, earthquakes; extremely susceptible to damaging hurricanes and floods along the Caribbean coast.
Environmental Issues	Urban population expanding; deforestation results from logging and the clearing of land for agricultural purposes; further land degradation and soil erosion hastened by uncontrolled development and improper land use practices such as farming of marginal lands; mining activities polluting Lago de Yojoa (the country's largest source of fresh water), as well as several rivers and streams, with heavy metals.

### PEOPLE

Population	7,989,415
Ethnic Groups	Mestizo (mixed Amerindian and European) 90%, Amerindian 7%, black 2%, white 1%.
Religions	Roman Catholic 97%, Protestant 3%
Languages	Spanish (official), Amerindian dialects.
Literacy Rate	80%
Major Infectious Diseases	Degree of risk: high Food or waterborne diseases: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever Vectorborne diseases: dengue fever and malaria Water contact disease: leptospirosis (2009)

	HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate: 0.7% (2007 est.)
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	
Type	Democratic Constitutional Republic
Independence	15 September 1821 (from Spain)
Constitution	11 January 1982, effective 20 January 1982; amended many times
Legal System	Rooted in Roman and Spanish civil law with increasing influence of English common law; recent judicial reforms include abandoning Napoleonic legal codes in favor of the oral adversarial system; accepts International Court of Justice jurisdiction with reservations.
<b>ECONOMY</b>	
Agricultural Products	Bananas, coffee, citrus, corn, African palm; beef; timber; shrimp, tilapia, lobster.
Industries	Sugar, coffee, textiles, clothing, wood products, cigars.
Import commodities	Machinery and transport equipment, industrial raw materials, chemical products, fuels, foodstuffs.
Import Partners	US 46.81%, Guatemala 8.92%, El Salvador 7.13%, Mexico 5.54%, Costa Rica 4.91% (2009).
Export Commodities	Apparel, coffee, shrimp, wire harnessing, cigars, bananas, gold, palm oil, fruit, lobster, lumber.
Export Partners	US 59.6%, El Salvador 5.61%, Guatemala 5.28%, Mexico 4.19%, Germany 4.04% (2009).
Per Capita GDP	\$4,100 (2009 est.)
Population below poverty line	59% (2008)

\*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

**COUNTRY: Honduras**

<b>General</b>	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	72.6 years
Average number of years in School (in years)	6.5 years
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	\$3,750
<b>Gender Inequality</b>	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	23.4%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	31.9%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	36.3%
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	43.4%
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	84.6%
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	67%
<b>Poverty</b>	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	18.2%
<b>Empowerment</b>	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	0
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	9%
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	13%

<b>Sustainability</b>	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	55%
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	45%
Population without Access to Water (%)	14%
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	29%
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	1.9%
<b>Human Security</b>	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	1,100
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	NA
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	12%
<b>Demographics</b>	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	51.6%
<b>Health</b>	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	.4%
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	.7%
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	.7%
<b>Other</b>	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	\$77.90
Population without Electricity (%)	28.7%

**Honduras's Public Expenditure**

